

Appleby Archaeology

Notes of the Committee Meeting of the Appleby Archaeology Group held on Thursday September 22nd at Swindalehead Barn North Stanmore.

Present

Carol Dougherty	Membership Secretary
Mike Godfrey	Treasurer
Tony Greenwood	Publicity
Martin Joyce	Newsletter Editor
Martin Railton	Field Work/Research
Phyl Rouston	Secretary (in the chair)

Apologies

Jen Callis, Richard Stevens.

Notes of the last meeting

The notes were agreed a correct record.

1/09/11 Matters arising

8/07/11 Conference Harry had emailed Richard to say that no decisions had been made re. Society for Landscape Studies conference and the venue proposed is Newton Rigg. He included the names of two speakers that we might want to approach in the future.

The committee felt that Appleby Archaeology's emphasis is now on research and that any monies available should be used to that end. A future day or half day conference on our recent research should be considered for the future.

6/07/2011 The programme for 2011/12 was confirmed and circulated to the committee. The visit to Furness had been a great success.

10/07/2011 Excavating the Maiden Way Roman Road was well supported in spite of appalling weather. Reports of both events are in the Autumn Newsletter.

2/09/7/11 Membership

Carol reported that membership now stood at 65, 16 joint member and 33 individual members. It was noted that this is the highest membership the group has had.

3/09/11 Treasurer's Report

Mike tabled the accounts for the period 5th April -20th September. The balance on 14th September was £795.88. There are two outstanding bills amounting to £62.03 and the renewal of the Insurance policy is due in December and likely to be in the region of £180. The insurance premium is the largest amount paid out on a regular basis.

Mike was asked if a rise in subscriptions was indicated but he assured the committee that this was not needed.

4/09/11 Research 2011 Altogether Archaeology Brackenber Moor

Martin R updated the committee.

The report of the excavation has been written and a paper copy and disc were given to the group, The report will be made available on our web site. He has forwarded an article for the CWAAS News letter and will send a report to Current Archaeology

Blaise Vyner had reported on the pottery. Both the collared urn and the pygmy cups are early Bonze Age (1900-1750BC). He recommended that urn should be conserved. The pygmy cups are rare. Some have been found in West Yorkshire and thought to be associated with burial rituals.

A shallow ditched feature to the west of the main earthwork, which was excavated by Martin and a colleague from NPA revealed several shallow ditches. Blaise Vyner had found 10 similar features, exposed after extensive fires in 2003, on Fylingdales Moor. It likely that they are prehistoric but more work needs to be

done.

Martin then proposed a programme for next year to follow up what had been a very successful summer.

a) Paul Frodsham is applying to the National Lottery for further funding for Altogether Archaeology and he expects a preliminary decision after their November meeting but a final decision is likely in the spring. If the bid is successful this would enable further work at Brackenber in late summer 2012 and at Maiden Way.

b) Further post excavation work should be done

1. The preservation of the urn, quoted cost £250

2. Specialist examination of the bones

3. Radio carbon dating of the charcoal especially that found near the pots.

Martin will get estimates for the above and suggested that we might approach CWAAS for funding. He will contact Richard with the information.

c) Topographical surveys of other features on the moor to increase our understanding of prehistoric landscape

5/09/11 Correspondence

The following have been received:-

Newsletter from Appleby and Westmorland Society,

Cumbria Local History Federation Bulletin 57 which included a message from Richard Brockington concerning groups that had not responded to a previous circulation about the Victoria Country Houses Project. Tony had unfortunately been unable to attend a meeting earlier this year. It was agreed that Phyl should write to say that our emphasis was elsewhere but if he wished to send information to us we could circulate it.

Conference by CBA NW and CBA N in Kendal on 29th October. No further details had been received however Liz Cook, a member, had advised Phyl that notice of it was on their website.

Current archaeology an email had been received from Carly Hilts, assistant editor asking archaeology groups to send articles on recent activities. Martin R will contact her with a view to writing something for them on this summer's excavation.

6/07/11 Committee :- Chairman and Secretary

Phyl had accepted the nomination to be chairman and had sent a list of what she does as secretary to the committee and had discussed it with Richard who felt he could take on the role of secretary and was prepared to put his name forward.

It was agreed that members of the committee would share the responsibility of writing the reports of talks and send them to the "The Herald" lizs@cwherald.com and to Martin J for the news letter. October- Carol, November-Tony, December- Martin

Stephen Walker had been approached and he was enthusiastic about joining the committee. Phyl to write and invite him to the December committee meeting.

Jen Callis had contacted Phyl to say she was happy to stand down if another member was interested. When appointed she had advised the committee that there were likely to be times when she could not be present.

The committee accepted her resignation, thanked her for her contribution and look forward to seeing her at future events.

All proposals for changes to the committee will be taken to the AGM in January.

7/09/11 AOB

1. North Pennines Archaeology Martin R reported that North Pennines Heritage Trust had gone into administration and that North Pennines Archaeology, has now been taken over by environmental consultancy Wardell Armstrong, which has safeguarded the 20 jobs. He anticipated the close links with Appleby Archaeology would continue. It is hoped that interested parties may be able to maintain Nenthead Mines.

2. Newsletter Martin J proposed that future newsletters should be in colour. He had done some costings and Milburn School could produce the required number of copies for £100 per annum. Current costs are 19p per copy, £41.80 annually for black and white from the Appleby Business Centre, who quoted £1.44 per colour copy. Martin showed a colour copy printed by the school which everyone liked and it was agreed to go to colour and ask the school to produce the copies.

3. Heart of Eden Project Carol Benelow had contacted Martin R regarding contributing an item to an information sheet designed to promote tourism and encourage visitors to explore the area. Martin will follow

this up. It was suggested that the leaflet could include a link to our website.

4.Ninekirks Maureen Newark a former member, had contacted Phyl about the research at Ninekirks and the interest shown by Janet Butterworth, Project Manager of the Whithorn Trust enquiries@whithorn.com .. Tony will contact her.

Date and Time of next meeting **Thursday December 1st 7.30pm** at White House Brampton.

PHR 26/9/2011